## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Intl.

Appl. No.: PCT/JP2005/004263

Applicant: Ryoichi IMANAKA et al.

Intl. Appl.

Filed: March 4, 2005

TC/A.U. : Not Assigned

Examiner : Not Assigned

Dkt. No. : TAM-066

Cust. No.: 20374

## SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 1, 2006

## Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows: